



National Center of Competence in Research –
The Migration-Mobility Nexus
nccr-onthemove.ch

IMISCOE Spring Workshop Programme

Thursday and Friday, 19 - 20 May 2022

Citizenship from Paper to Practice: Perspectives on the Implementation Gap

Organized by the

IMISCOE's Standing Committee on Migration, Citizenship and Political Participation
(MIGCITPOL)

and the nccr – on the move, Université de Neuchâtel (CH)

*In person at the Université de Neuchâtel, Swiss Forum for Migration and Population
Studies, Room 2.310, Bréguet 2, 2000 Neuchâtel,*

Online on Webex at <https://unine.webex.com/meet/jean-thomas.arrighi>

The gap between citizenship law and policy practice has long been identified: from outright dissonance between legal norms and arbitrary practices to “milder” forms of deviation, as in the spaces opened for interpretation and discretion of the street-level bureaucrats. Moreover, as the field has expanded geographically to non-democratic or less affluent states, there are reasons to believe that the challenges are bigger than we had thought. Yet, the conceptualization of the implementation gap and its many nuances along the continuum is still weak. In this Workshop, a team of international scholars invited by the IMISCOE's Standing Committee on Migration, Citizenship and Political Participation and the nccr – on the move will explore the issue from a theoretical and empirical perspective.

DAY 1: THURSDAY 19 MAY

08:30 – 09:00: Arrival, Coffee

09:00 – 09:15: Welcome by MIGCITPOL Coordinators

09:15 – 10:00

Discretion and Arbitrariness in Citizenship Law: Conceptualization and Measurement in Global Perspective

Luuk Van der Baaren, European University Institute (IT)

Discussant: Samuel Schmid, University of Lucerne (CH)

10:00 – 10:45

Becoming Citizens in a Global Pandemic: Implementation Constraints and Diverse Measures

Zeynep Montesoglu Tardivo, LUISS Guido Carli University (IT)

Discussant: Daniela Vintila, University of Liège (BE)

Coffee break (30 minutes)

11:15 – 12:00

The Integrationist Wave in Citizenship Policies in Europe: Less Rights, Less Discretion?

Djordje Sredanovic, Université Libre de Bruxelles (BE)

Discussant: Emilien Fargues, Sciences-Po Paris (FR)

12:00 – 12:45

Soviet Citizenship Law on the Books and In Action

Irina Nicorici, Rutgers University (US)

Discussant: Jean-Thomas Arrighi, University of Neuchâtel (CH)

12.45 -14:00

Lunch at the Restaurant l'ESPACE, Clos-Brochet 10, 2000 Neuchâtel

14:00 – 14:45

Citizenship from Paper to Practice: African Perspectives on the Implementation Gap

Maria Saine, University of The Gambia

Discussant: Lillian Frost, Virginia Tech University (US)

14:45 – 15:30

Ambiguous Citizenship and the Politics of Informal Representation: Migrant Activists' Mediation between Labor Migrants and Migrant Origin States in the Gulf Countries

Mira Burmeister-Rudolph, University of Amsterdam

Discussant: Irina Nicorici, Rutgers University (US)

Coffee Break (15 minutes)

15:45 – 16:30

Exigencies of Citizenship in India: Deciphering the Implementation Gap

Nazimuddin Siddique, independent researcher (IN) and Sujata Ramachandrna,
Balsillie School of International Affairs (CA)

Discussant: Luicy Pedroza, El Colegio de Mexico (MX)

16:30 – 17:15

Ambiguous Citizenship Policies: Examining Implementation Gaps across Levels of
Legislation in Jordan

Lillian Frost, Virginia Tech University (US)

Discussant: Maria Saine, University of The Gambia (GM)

19:30

Conference Dinner

Restaurant Le Cardinal, rue du Seyon 9, 2000 Neuchâtel

DAY 2: FRIDAY 20 MAY

9:00 – 9:45

When There Is Scope for local Discretion: Measuring the impact of a Decentralized
Approach to Citizenship Acquisition in France and the UK

Emilien Fargues, Sciences-Po Paris (FR)

Discussant: Djordje Sredanovic, Université Libre de Bruxelles (BE)

9:45 – 10:30

Migrant Perspectives on Naturalization Procedures in Germany

Liam Haller, German Centre for Migration and Integration Research (DE)

Discussants: Simona Schreier and Christina Khoury, Danube University Krems (AT)

Coffee Break (15 minutes)

10:45 – 11:30

How Non-Citizens Perceive the Obstacles and Opportunities to Naturalization in
Austria

Simona Schreier and Christina Khoury, Danube University Krems (AT)

Discussant: Liam Haller, German Centre for Migration and Integration Research (DE)

11:45 – 13:30

Brown Bag Lunch – Brainstorming Session

What Next? From a Successful Conference to a Special Issue